

PEACE BALANCE OF PACIFIC MAY BE THROWN AWRY IF LONDON CONFERENCE FAILS

Unless United States, Britain and Japan Come to Agreement Grim Game of Armaments Will Begin All Over Again.

By Scripps-Howard Newspaper Alliance

WASHINGTON, Dec. 6.—The peace balance of the Pacific and Far East will be thrown dangerously out of plumb if the world naval conference beginning Monday in London goes on the rocks.

The status of the Philippines, China, British and Dutch East Indies, and even Australasia and Soviet Siberia, is seen here as involved in the outcome.

Unless at least three foremost sea powers—the United States, Great Britain and Nippon—patch up some kind of agreement to replace the Washington treaty scrapped by Japan, a grim game of chess with armaments and fortifications for pawns will almost certainly begin in that area.

When Japan denounced the naval limitation treaty, thus winning a free hand to build up to parity with Britain and America, the United States simultaneously was released from its pledge not to fortify the Philippines, Guam, the Aleutian and other islands of the Pacific.

Equal Rights After 1936

Japan and Britain, of course, will have equal rights in their own insular possessions after 1936. Whether they will all avail themselves of such rights depends on factors which, at this time, are extremely uncertain.

Japan, for example, has definitely announced its intention of holding on to the swarm of mandated islands formerly belonging to Germany. Her naval experts are known to regard these islands as permanent "warships." There are hundreds of them, "anchored" two-thirds of the way from Hawaii to the Philippines.

If the Japanese use them as bases—particularly for submarine and aircraft—approach to China from the east would be hazardous even for the most powerful of fleets.

Japan's other islands to the south, and northward toward Kamchatka, if similarly used, would make her impregnable from those directions. Both China and Eastern Siberia would find themselves bottled up, their exits to the Pacific barred.

These and like considerations played a vital role at the Washington naval and Far Eastern conference of 1921. That conference, as the name implied, was really two in one. It was generally recognized that unless the major powers could reach a political understanding, no arms limitation agreement was possible.

Two highly important political treaties, therefore, resulted. One was the nine-power treaty, safeguarding China's political and territorial integrity. The other was a four-power pact among America,

Britain, France and Japan to respect each other's insular possessions in the Pacific.

New Naval Pact Difficult

Without some similar understanding at this time at London, including agreement not to fortify further the Pacific islands, a new naval pact would be difficult even were other obstacles out of the way.

Unfortunately, Japan's seizure of Manchuria and her present activities in China would seem to preclude further reliance in pacts of the nine-power variety. Having violated that treaty two or three times in the recent past, few believe her militarists will respect it.

Great Britain is now rushing to completion her \$50,000,000 naval and air base at Singapore. Australia is studying important base projects along her northern coast. Holland is worried over the future of her East Indian possessions.

The United States plans to make the Hawaiian Islands an American Gibraltar. Unless some contrary bargain is struck at London, the Aleutian Islands will likely be fortified at strategic points and important air and naval bases constructed. The Philippine defenses are being studied. A national defense system is being worked out under American supervision. A naval and air base at Guam is under consideration.

Such are some of the nuts London will have to crack if it is to get anywhere.

POLICE WILL COLLECT SIGN INSPECTION FEES

Two for West Point, Three for
Annapolis Are Listed.

Two Indiana youths have been recommended for entrance to the United States Military Academy at West Point and three for the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis by Senator Frederick VanNuyts.

The candidates and their alternates:

Military Academy—Robert Moore Brewer of West Lafayette, principal; William Harold Thomas of Mishawaka and Robert Rossow Jr. of Culver, alternates. Roger Lee Russell Jr. of Bloomington, principal; Truman E. Deyo of Dunkirk and William Shoup of Middlebury, alternates.

Naval Academy—Charles Fuson Rees of Muncie, principal; Robert Weese Harker of Huntington, Robert Milner Carpenter of Moores-

ville and John Herbert Patterson of Bloomington, alternates. Robert Lee Dodane of Fort Wayne, principal; James Nichols Jr. of Terre Haute, Albert Karl Federick of Richmond and Frederick Ewing Case of Logansport, alternates. John L. Bookout of Marion, principal; Maynard C. Darnall Jr. of Crawfordsville, George Urban Stanchik of East Chicago and Leon Scott of Muncie, alternates.

RAINNEY WILL SPEAK

Life Insurance Clinic to Meet in
First of Series.

James L. Rainey, Indianapolis Association of Life Underwriters' president, speaks tonight at the first of a series of life insurance clinics to be held in the Y. M. C. A.

Jean Black, educational committee chairman, is to preside. Albert Herrmann and C. C. Crumbacker assisted in arrangements. The meetings are to be held semi-monthly.

Fee of \$1 is charged for annual inspection of sign flat against a wall, and \$1.50 for an extended or roof sign.

Fall Injuries Prov Fatal

Albert C. Morrison, 60, of 64 S. Summit-st. died in City Hospital last night a few hours after he was injured in a 30-foot fall from the roof of a house at 68 S. Summit-st. where he was engaged in repair work.

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